Schemes of Project Tiger and Project Elephant, ex-gratia relief is given to the dependents of the persons killed by wild animals in and around tiger reserves and elephant bearing areas. This provision has now been extended to Scheme for National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries also. A minimum amount of Rs. 20,000 is recommended to be paid as compensation/relief for loss of life. However, in some states, the compensation/relief paid is less. The maximum compensation/relief is given by the Gujarat Government at the rate of Rs. 1 lakh for killing of human beings by lions. Thus the relief given by the States varies from State to State and also from that given in case of air, rail and road accidents.

(d) and (e) In order to bring uniformity in the minimum amount of payment of compensation/relief by the competent authorities in the State Governments, the Ministry of Environment and Forests has recommended to all States and UTs in 1990 to pay at least Rs. 20,000 in each case of loss of life due to wild animals.

Purchase of Aircraft for BSF

3652. SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air King V-200 aircraft purchased for Border Security Force is parked in the hanger of Indormer Company at Mumbai Air Port due to the technical defects; and

(b) the date on which this aircraft was purchased and the value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir. The aircraft is providing satisfactory service to BSF.

(b) Date of purchase — 18-7-1995

Cost — Rs. 12.5 Crores.

[English]

Agriculture Finance Corporation

3653. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an Agricultural Finance Corporation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Unsafety of Women

3654. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Delhi's shame : Women most unsafe" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', dated March 5, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the said news item is based on a recent report of the Delhi State Commission for Women;

(c) if so, the other observations of the report; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken in the light of these observations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Closure of IDPL

3655. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of IDPL units, State-wise;

(b) the number of units lying sick and likely to be closed;

(c) the number of workers, likely to be affected as a result thereof;

(d) the alternative arrangement made by the Government for their suitable employment; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) IDPL has three plants one each located at Rishikesh in Uttar Pradesh, Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh and Gurgaon in Haryana. IDPL also has two wholly owned subsidiaries, namely, IDPL (Tamil Nadu) at Chennai and Bihar Drugs and Organic Chemicals Ltd. (BDOCL) at Muzaffarpur (Bihar). The production in IDPL plants and units has stopped since October, 1996 mainly on account of financial constraints. Nominal operations are, however, being carried on in the Gurgaon plant and the Chennai wholly owned subsidiary. The total number of workers in the three IDPL plants and two wholly owned subsidiaries is 8138.

(d) and (e) IDPL is a sick company registered with the BIFR. IDBI, Bombay, the Operating Agency appointed by the BIFR has submitted its report on the techno-economic viability of IDPL. A final decision regarding the future of IDPL has yet to be taken by the Government.